and shining, virtually glabrous, having only a few fine upstanding hairs. Parapsidal furrows represented by extremely fine, weakly impressed lines which anteriorly are quite distinct, but which fade out long before reaching the posterior edge of the mesonotum. Propodeum divided by 3 sharply defined carinae into 2 shining areas, which are longer than wide; the middle carina becomes almost imperceptibly forked at its base.

Wings: marginalis about equal in length to that part of the subcostalis between the upper origin of the basalis and the basal limit of the marginalis itself; postmarginalis hardly as long as the stigmalis; a false radius encloses a long radial cell which is about twice as long as the marginalis.

Abdomen: petiole somewhat shining, clothed with long whitish hairs. 1st sternite, seen from the side, forming a prominent angulation at its base; this angulation is nearly right-angled, and is thickly clothed with whitish hairs. The apex of the abdomen becomes suddenly and strongly constricted laterally.

Length: 2·3-3·4mm.

♂ differs from the ♀ only in the following respects:—

Head: Antennae with the scape a little longer than the following 2 joints together; pedicel about as wide as long; funicle clothed with short inconspicuous hairs; 1st joint twice as long as the pedicel, deeply excised on its basal half, the side opposite to the excision slightly bowed; following joints subequal in length, about two-thirds as long as the 1st, all becoming narrowed towards their base, especially the apical ones.

Abdomen: 1st ventrite without an angulation at its base; apex of abdomen somewhat flattened dorsally.

Length: 2·5-2·7mm. Types in Coll. Donisthorpe.

Berkshire, Windsor Forest; in nests of the ant *Acanthomyops brunneus*, Latr.

This genus is closely related to *Acanosema*, Kieffer, and differs from it, apparently, only in having no basal cell in the hindwing. The woolly collar on the pronotum and on the vertex, its smooth shining surface, combined with a certain delicateness of appearance render this little species superficially very like a Diapriine.

I have pleasure in naming this interesting insect in honour of its captor, Mr. H. St. J. Donisthorpe, to whose indefatigable energies in the field we owe yet another addition to our list of British Hymenoptera.

Some Observations on Aleurodidae.

By. J. W. HESLOP HARRISON, D.Sc., F.R.S., F.R.S.E.

Although I have published but little recently concerning the *Aleurodidae*, my interest in them has continued unabated, and I have never ceased collecting them for the purposes of study. Naturally, therefore, I commenced to read Marriner's paper (*Ent. Rec.*, Feb. 1931) with some zest. However, my interest changed to dismay as I proceeded, for so many points in it revealed themselves as demanding criticism.

In the first place, the title seems quite inaccurate. If the word "Aleurodes" is intended to be the title of the most important

British genus the name is inapplicable to the paper, for other genera are discussed. On the other hand, if it is supposed to be the plural of an English word replacing the more usual "Aleurodid," as the use of the singular "aleurode" on page 22 would signify, then what is the word "Aleurodes," printed in small capitals on line 14, supposed to imply or to cover?

Other points needing comment in Marriner's paper I propose to take up as I place on record observations of my own.

Aleurodes fragariae, Walker.—Rare in N. Durham. Marriner's specific name is incorrectly spelt.

A. lonicerae, Walker.—Extremely common everywhere in Northumberland, Durham and N. Yorks; polyvoltine, the last brood of the year hibernating in dead leaves at the bases of the food plant, where I have often captured them in winter, when collecting Arachnids. Again the specific name is spelt wrongly in Marriner's list.

A. xylostei, Westhoff.—There appear to be two species on honeysuckle one of which seems to be this. I hope to breed both the present form and the preceding from the egg to settle the point.

A. rubi, Sign.—Not at all common with us on bramble and raspberry.

A. rubicola, Douglas.—More usually found on bramble than the former, and generally more plentiful.

A. quercus, Sign.—Has occurred only sparingly recently in our oakwoods.

A. spiraeae, Douglas.—Waldridge Fell still remains our only locality.

A. proletella, L.—Very common on its food plant on the walls of Aydon Castle, Northumberland. The Celandine (*Chelidonium majus*) is very local with us and therefore this Aleurodid must be the same.

A. prenanthis, Schrank.—Abundant on *Prenanthes purpurea* at Zweilütschinen and Gsteig, Switzerland.

Asterochiton carpini, Koch.—Sparsely distributed in the Derwent Valley. Mr. Marriner very charitably regards my use of the generic name *Asterochiton*, for this species in place of *Aleurodes* as "probably a slip." It never seems to have dawned upon him that the change was the outcome of prolonged study and tedious breeding work Further he is quite in error in asserting that the genus is South European. It is a record for Germany, and I myself have taken it in the form of the species *Asterochiton coryli*, Britton, in Quebec, and of a second and undescribed species from *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*, in Ontario. Moreover Marriner's own *S. phillyreae* has been assigned to it by responsible authors.

A. avellanae, Sign.—More or less western in our counties, but nevertheless plentiful in at least two broods; also captured in Midlothian. Again the determination of the genus demanded a considerable expenditure of time and was not a "slip"

Trialeurodes vaporariorum, Westwood.—Common everywhere in greenhouses on *Solanaceae*, *Fuchsia*, *Passiflora*, *Abutilon*, etc., the second being by far the worst affected plant in my experience; can maintain itself outside during the summer and autumn.

Tetralica ericae, Harrison.—Still at Waldridge and recently captured in Dipton Woods, Northumberland. Let me hasten to assure Mr. Marriner that, despite his lack of knowledge of the fact, a description

of both genus and species has been supplied in the *Vasculum*, Vol. III., No. 2, page 60, 1917, and repeated by special request in the *Entomologist*, Vol. L., page 170, August, 1917. This species is likewise polyvoltine.

Mr. Marriner, in his concluding paragraph is, of course, simply repeating the subject matter of the two last paragraphs of my paper on "New and Rare British Aleurodidae" (*Entomologist*, Vol. LIII., Nov. 1920) and supplying confirmation thereof. I must protest against his bestowal of the name *Aleurodes scrophulariae* upon the *Scrophularia* species. The name is nothing but a *nomen nudum* and therefore cannot stand. Further, the use of the generic name *Aleurodes* shows a failure to appreciate the kind of facts one must accumulate before one may venture to assign a species of this group to its correct generic position. Since Mr. Bagnall's original detection of the figwort insect I have observed it myself and would hesitate long before I would regard it as a typical *Aleurodes*. The same holds true of Marriner's "*Aleurodes ulmi*," although matters are worse here, for in my 1920 paper my studies were far enough advanced to enable me to place the species in the genus *Asterochiton*.

I may state for the benefit of other workers, that I have ova, larvae, pupae and imagines of several new species.

(1) From *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*, Islington, Ontario, Canada.

(2) From *Clematis vitalba*, several localities between Interlaken and Grindelwald, Switzerland.

(3) From *Impatiens noli-tangere*, very common Zweilütschinen, Switzerland.

(4) From *Aegopodium podagraria*, common near Wilderswil, Switzerland, also once or twice in Durham.

(5) From *Aquilegia vulgaris*. In spruce and beech woods, Wilderswil, Switzerland.

NOTES ON COLLECTING, etc.

Xestobium rufovillosum, Deg.—The Deathwatch Beetle.—The attention of Coleopterists might perhaps be called to the leaflet recently published by the Forest Products Research Laboratory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and reviewed in the issue of the *Times* of April 2nd, and particularly to the request of the Director (Forest Products Research Laboratory, Princes Risborough, Bucks) for suitable material containing living insects to be sent to the laboratory. It is stated that thousands of adults are required for the study of the life-history of such a pest to the old timbers of our valuable and historic buildings, which may lead to the development of more successful methods of prevention and control, and particularly in the early larval stages of this insect.—G. C. Leman (F.E.S.).

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS.

Young Larva of Phlogophora meticulosa in February.—On February 1st last I found a green larva about half an inch long which I did not recognise. It was feeding on a flower of *Anemone fulgens* and had eaten conspicuous holes in several of the petals, so I brought and the flower indoors and installed it in a glass tumbler for